pending finalisation of the cases against them in the High Court and Supreme Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) to (c) There is no proposal to provide any special relief to the security personnel facing various charges of violation of human rights in Punjab. However, legal protection is already available to security personnel in the discharge of their official duties, under the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and special laws like the Punjab Disturbed Areas Act, 1983.

New-Items "Dalit Woman Paraded Naked"

2512. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the contents of the news-item "Dalit Woman Paraded Naked" appearing in the Hindu dated the 28th August, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to arrest and punish the offenders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Rise in attacks on Christians

2513. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item titled "Rise in attacks on Christians" appearing in the Hindustan Times dated the 1st November, 2001;

(b) whether there had been a spurt in attacks on Christians since the present Government came to power in March, 1998;

(c) if so, the comparative figures of injuries and fatal death of Christians for the last four years since 1997, year-wise and up till now duiing the current year; and